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# Sawchuk

[continued from page 1]  
the DEQE also have to approve the system; tentative approval from each of these boards has been given. The official written approval from State Engineer Thomas Clority of the DEQE and the Board of Appeals' final decision are holding up development at 79 Atlantic Ave.

Among the most controversial of the system's aspects is the precedent it would be setting for the town. The communal leaching field which would be near the existing driveway, is five times the size of one field, thereby accommodating all the homes on a common system. Individual leaching fields for the homes have also been tested.

Wayne Sawchuk, principal member of the trust, said at a recent Conservation Commission meeting that multiple systems have been successfully used in Sherborn and Sudbury. He said it would be the most practical system for the area because it would facilitate easy tie-in with public sewerage which he predicts will come down Atlantic Avenue.

Sawchuk, who with Douglas Purdy and Glen Pratt, own the property, didn't feel that precedent setting was at issue at all because the system conforms to the state sanitary code and the Cohasset Board of Health regulations. The proposed leaching area has the percolability to support five homes, he said, and it is not subject to flooding or wave action. The percolation tests were performed by Robert Crawford of EET with Health Agent Kevin O'Brien.

Furthermore, Sawchuk was convinced no pollution would reach Treats Pond or the bathing beaches after the Conservation Commission engaged John Modzelewski, physical engineer with Civil Designs Inc. of Boston, to further review the site. Modzelewski suggested, and Sawchuk agreed to fill the expansion area because it would obviate the need for disturbing the road to provide a buffer to the area in the future and insures adequate leaching area.

How liability for the maintenance of the common system would be divided has also

been heard as a question of concern. An association of homeowners has been formed to allow for the maintenance of the system as installed, according to Sawchuk. All owners of the property are collectively responsible for the installation, maintenance and repair of the system.

O'Brien doesn't see any problems with the proposed disposal system or the association, Sandy Cove South Association. O'Brien said the system, although he finds failure unlikely, would usually show signs of failure at the point at which the system goes wrong. If something fails, it would show quickly, he said.

O'Brien finds the cluster system a good precedent for Cohasset if there is good soil and area. But, he added, there aren't many places in Cohasset that can show good soil. As for the percolation tests at 79 Atlantic Ave., O'Brien added, "It's good stuff."

Treats Pond is ditched and then piped underground where it finally empties into the ocean, O'Brien said. The closest area to open water from the leaching area is 80 feet, far enough away to dispel fears of pollution.

Although O'Brien agrees with Sawchuk that the one large leaching field will reduce the number of trees that would have to be cleared to individual systems, he acknowledges that it would cost less to do it this way and be easier to maintain. If individual systems were installed, he said, they would have to be on the

lot, within 10 feet of the property line and involving a lot more area.

Awaiting is the Board of Appeals' final decision, pending coordination of the approval of all concerned. Sawchuk is anxious that the decision won't come until the end of June, taking up the full 90 days the board has to come to a decision. Every lot is under agreement, he said, but he can't pass papers until he knows the property can be built on.

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U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds of Cohasset will be at Town Hall Saturday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. to conduct the 11th in his series of open meetings with constituents of each town in his district.

Studds generally discusses issues and problems of national, state and local importance.